

nature by a distinct mRNA, said hormone being human FSH, the alpha subunit of said hormone being encoded by said first expression vector and the beta subunit being encoded by said first expression vector or a second expression vector.

17. The cell of claim 15, further comprising a second expression vector encoding the beta subunit of said hormone.

18. The cell of claim 15, said second expression vector being autonomously replicating.

19. The cell of claim 18, said first vector being a plasmid.

20. The cell of claim 18, the alpha and beta subunits of said heterodimeric hormone being encoded by said first expression vector.

21. The cell of claim 18, transcription of the alpha and beta subunits of said heterodimeric hormone being under the control of the mouse metallothionein promoter.

22. The cell of claim 18, said cell being a mouse cell.

23. The cell of claim 18, said first expression vector being autonomously replicating.

24. A method for producing the biologically active human fertility hormone FSH comprising culturing host mammalian cells comprising a first expression vector encoding the beta subunit of said FSH and a second expression vector encoding the alpha subunit of said FSH.

25. The method of claim 24, wherein each said expression vector is autonomously replicating.--

REMARKS

Claims 16-25 presently appear in this case. The present preliminary amendment is being filed to expedite allowance of this